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September 27, 2018

Ms. Radha Sekar, CEO
Universal Service Administrative Company
700 12th Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Nomination for USAC Board of Directors, CC Docket 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Ms. Sekar:

I am writing to express my strong support for Cheri Rhinhart's nomination to the USAC Board of Directors position, representing education. Ms. Rhinhart lives and works in rural eastern Oregon, and well understands the education challenges facing rural students and families, and the opportunities that can be delivered via quality and reliable broadband.

Ms. Rhinhart serves as the Information Technology Director at Intermountain Education Service District (IMESD) in Pendleton, Oregon. She has a career long commitment to addressing connectivity challenges faced by rural schools to provide scalable broadband connectivity for all students. Cheri has served IMESD since July 2005 directing technology with a focus on K-12 student success for 18 school districts throughout Umatilla, Morrow, and Baker counties. IMESD also contributes to a partnership that provides technology services for ten school districts in Malheur County.

Ms. Rhinhart is a recognized and respected leader in the Northwest, where she has worked diligently to support equity of access for all students. She is a board member for and past president of the Association of Computer Professionals Oregon and Washington State. In addition, Ms. Rhinhart serves on the Oregon Broadband Services Rules Advisory Committee for SB 4023.

Ms. Rhinhart understands and has been a champion for the E-rate program, and for almost twenty years, has helped schools effectively use the program's funding. I very much appreciate Cheri's willingness to take on this work and believe her leadership, knowledge and experience would be an invaluable contribution to the USAC board.

Thank you for your consideration of Ms. Rhinhart's nomination.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator

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